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1969/04/23

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON
April 23, 1969ACTIONCONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Henry A. Kissinger *HK*

SUBJECT: Next Steps in Cambodia

Our border declaration on Cambodia was delivered to Prince Sihanouk, as scheduled, on April 16 by the Australian Ambassador in Phnom Penh. At that time, Sihanouk expressed his great pleasure, both to the Ambassador and subsequently at a press conference. He has since written you a letter of thanks, expressing his view that resumption of normal relations should follow in the near future (Tab B). Sihanouk's letter was made public in Phnom Penh.

The State Department has suggested a brief reply by you although Sihanouk's message does not necessarily require an answer. The draft reply, which we have modified slightly, responds positively to Sihanouk's overture for resumption of diplomatic relations (Tab A).

At the same time, the State Department is presently consulting with the Australian Government about the dispatch of an officer to Phnom Penh under their auspices to make preliminary administrative arrangements for the reopening of our embassy. Assuming the Australians agree, it intends to inform the Cambodian Government of this intention a few days later.

Sihanouk has indicated that he is prepared to move ahead with this fairly quickly and has in Washington a young man, now serving as "caretaker" of embassy property, whom he is likely to designate as Charge.

The U.S. Government has no property or other facilities in Phnom Penh and will have to make a number of administrative and other arrangements in order to re-establish a presence there.

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E.O. 12958, Sec. 3.5

NSC Memo, 11/24/88, State Dept. *Quidley, Mahm, 1/99*
By *ut* Date 12/99

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Once these arrangements are worked out, a Charge can be designated and a skeleton staff sent in to start the Embassy.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you approve the draft reply to Prince Sihanouk at
Tab A.

Approve 

Disapprove

Attachments

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